

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

*Part A1>*

1. An application service providing method of providing a user with application services, the method comprising the steps of:

selecting applications satisfying user requirements from a plurality of applications; and providing application services by performing data format conversion between data input by the user and data for the selected applications or communication protocol conversion.

2. An application service providing method according to claim 1, wherein the user requirements are application function requirements indicating a function of an application requested by the user, charge requirements indicating a limit charge amount payable by the user, or response requirements indicating a response of an application requested by the user.

3. An application service providing method according to claim 1, further comprising a step of exchanging an application not satisfying the user requirements with another application.

4. An application service providing method according to claim 1, further comprising a step of concentrating a counter of services for a plurality of applications.

5. An application service providing system for providing a user with application services, the system comprising:

application selecting means for selecting applications satisfying user requirements from a plurality of applications; and

system linking means for providing application services by performing data format conversion between data input by the user and data for the selected applications or communication protocol conversion.

6. An application service providing system according to claim 5, further comprising application exchanging means for exchanging an application not satisfying the user requirements with another application.

7. An application service providing system according to claim 5, further comprising counter concentrating means for concentrating a counter of services for a plurality of applications.

8. A computer readable storage medium storing a program for realizing on a computer an application service providing system for providing a user with application services, the program comprising instructions for performing the steps of:

selecting applications satisfying user requirements from a plurality of applications; and  
providing application services by performing data format conversion between data input by the user and data for the selected applications or communication protocol conversion.

9. A computer readable storage medium according to

claim 8, wherein the program further comprises instructions for performing a step of exchanging an application not satisfying the user requirements with another application.

10. A computer readable storage medium according to claim 8, wherein the program further comprises instructions for performing a step of concentrating a counter of services for a plurality of applications.

11. An application service providing method of providing a user with application services, the method comprising the steps of:

selecting applications or application providers and their applications satisfying user requirements from a plurality of applications provided by a application provider or providers; and

providing application services by performing data format conversion, communication protocol conversion, or work flow management between the selected applications.

12. An application service providing system for providing a user with application services, the system comprising:

means for selecting applications or application providers and their applications satisfying user requirements from a plurality of applications provided by a application provider or providers; and

means for providing application services by performing data format conversion, communication protocol

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